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Item of Interest
New Building Project Office
02 December 1983

STATUS OF THE NEW BUILDING

The past year of project activity has seen the completion of Schematic and Preliminary Design, with the National Capital Planning Commission approval of the Preliminary Design; the signing of an agreement with the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation to design and construct needed highway improvements; and the formation of a citizens committee for advice on road improvements.

The Agency 1984 Budget Program contains money for construction and support costs generated by the New Building. The General Services Administration (GSA) will manage the construction for us and has agreed to process the construction contracts within 90 days from receipt of the Construction Documents from the architectural-engineering firm. This means that a request for proposals to bid on construction for Phase I of the Project should be released circa 15 January 1984, and actual ground breaking for construction should begin in April or May. The total construction time should be three years, and we expect to move into the new building in August 1987. However, before the major construction starts in the spring, GSA must accomplish certain site work to relocate utility lines.

This activity begins with the GSA Northside Utility Project contract with E. J. Murray Construction Company. This project has been reported elsewhere, and most employees are aware of its impact. However, there is another segment of utility work which is just now being firmed up and scheduled. This work will be done by the local utility companies prior to the start of the main construction project in the West Parking Lot. In order to accomplish the work, various trenches will have to be dug with a resultant loss of scarce parking spaces. This is especially burdensome at this time as the Office of Security has instituted a new initiative to gain more control of visitors and onsite contractors. All of this points to a very challenging period for parking management on the Headquarters compound.

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